Application No.: 09/976,019   Docket No. D02363

AMENDMENTS TO THE CLAIMS

Please amend the claims as follows:

1. (previously amended) A terminal for optimizing <u>audio equipment for the</u> reproduction of an audio signal that has source characteristic data and that is transmitted through a delivery channel, comprising:

a receiver that receives the audio signal and the source characteristic data;

a memory that stores the source characteristic data and delivery channel capability data; ~~and~~

a processor that generates optimized configuration data for reproducing the audio signal based on the source characteristic data, ~~and~~ the delivery channel capability data <u>and audio equipment data; and</u>

<u>a control interface that couples the terminal with the audio equipment, wherein the processor generates the optimized configuration data based on the audio equipment data, and wherein the optimized configuration data is transmitted through the control interface to the audio equipment so as to automatically, without any user input, configure the audio equipment based on the optimized configuration data.</u>

2. (original) The terminal of claim 1, wherein the memory comprises: a channel map for generating a program guide based on the source characteristic data and the delivery channel capability data.

3. (original) The terminal of claim 1, wherein the memory contains delivery channel capability data for at least two delivery channels.

3

4. (original) The terminal of claim 1, wherein the memory comprises: a program guide database that stores the source characteristic data; and a channel map database that stores the delivery channel capability data.

5. (original) The terminal of claim 4, wherein the terminal generates an assembled program guide based on the data in the program guide database and the channel map database.

6. (original) The terminal of claim 4, wherein the program guide database stores the source characteristic data in at least one source characteristic data field.

7. (original) The terminal of claim 6, wherein the audio signal is transmitted over one of at least two delivery channels, and wherein the program guide database has at least one source characteristic field assigned to each delivery channel.

8. (original) The terminal of claim 4, wherein the channel map database stores the delivery channel capability data in at least one delivery channel capability data field.

9. (original) The terminal of claim 8, wherein the audio signal is transmitted over one of at least two delivery channels, and wherein the channel map database has at least one delivery channel capability data field assigned to each delivery channel.

10. (original) The terminal of claim 1, wherein the optimized configuration data generated by the processor includes data that provides an alternative configuration if the delivery channel cannot support the source characteristic of the audio signal.

4

Application No.: 09/976,019   Docket No. D02363

11. (original) The terminal of claim 1, wherein the memory stores ~~the~~ audio equipment ~~configuration~~ data that is used by the processor to generate the optimized configuration data.

12. (original) The terminal of claim 1, further comprising an output interface that couples the processor to an output mechanism to present the optimized configuration data to a user.

13-18. (previously canceled)

19- 43. (previously withdrawn from consideration)

44. (previously amended) A method for optimizing audio equipment for audio reproduction, comprising the acts of:

obtaining an audio signal having source characteristic data;

obtaining delivery channel capability data; ~~and~~

generating optimized configuration data based on the source characteristic data, audio equipment data, and the delivery channel characteristic data;

generating optimized configuration data based on the audio equipment data; and

automatically configuring the audio equipment, without any user input, based on the optimized configuration data.

45. (original) The method of claim 44, further comprising the act of storing the source characteristic data in a program guide database.

5

Application No.: 09/976,019   Docket No. D02363

46. (original) The method of claim 44, further comprising the act of storing the delivery channel capability data in a channel map.

47. (original) The method of claim 46, wherein the channel map stores delivery channel capabilities for a plurality of delivery channels.

48-49. (previously withdrawn from consideration)

50-54. (previously canceled)

55. (original) The method of claim 44, further comprising the act of outputting the optimized configuration data.

56. (previously submitted) The method of claim 44, wherein the audio data is retrieved from a memory.